

Nixon, G. E. J. 1965. A reclassification of the tribe Microgasterini (Hymenoptera: Braconidae). Bull. Br. Mus. Natur. Hist., Ent. Suppl. 2:1-275. (Key to genera p. 11-17; to spp. of *Snellenius* pp. 270-271.)

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ON THE TRUE IDENTITIES OF TUOBA AND NESOGEOPHILUS

(CHILOPODA: GEOPHILOMORPHIA: GEOPHILIDAE)

In his 1920 treatment of the Chilopoda of the Australian Region, Chamberlin (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. 64:35) described a curious new geophilomorph from the Solomons, referring it to the Gonibregmatidae, which is for many an emunctory catch-all of arcane genera, and called it *Tuoba curticeps*, new genus and species. And there it has reposed, unevoked and generically unidentifiable, for Chamberlin's delineation, published without figures, entails several crucial errors that have led subsequent workers down error's garden path.

So when in 1924 Verhoeff (Nat. Hist. Juan Fernandex 3:413) proposed within *Geophilus* a new subgenus, *Nesogeophilus*, from Juan Fernandez, he forgivably failed to identify its two species as proper congeners of the unknowable *Tuoba curticeps*. Having studied all of the pertinent types, I can assert confidently that since *laticollis* (Attems), the type-species of *Nesogeophilus* (by Attems' subsequent designation in 1929) is congeneric with *curticeps* Chamberlin, type-species of *Tuoba* (by original designation), it follows that *Nesogeophilus* 1924 is a junior subjective synonym of *Tuoba* 1920.

I imagine Chamberlin assigned *Tuoba* to the Gonibregmatidae because, as is clear from his description, he failed to discern the actual condition of the coxopleural glands, which are not manifest as freely-opening surface pores as he suggested. Rather each coxopleuron has a single large, ventral, concealed, glandular crypt that is heterogeneous, multiglandular, and multicanaliculate. A second and most distinctive feature of the genus, that no one has yet detected, is the pretarsal anterior parunguis, which is both strictly spiniform and greatly elongate, being as long as the claw proper and much longer than the minute posterior parunguis. This extraordinary condition surely seems associated with the genus' distinctively littoral preferences; it probably serves as a special hold-fast adaptation. *Tuoba* belongs where Attems and Verhoeff stationed *Nesogeophilus*, in Geophilidae.

The genus, which is predominantly littoral and world-wide, is represented in the Australian Region by the following:

curticeps Chamberlin, 1920, Solomons

hartmeyeri (Attems, 1911) (= *laticeps* q.v., part, and *sydneyensis* q.v., part.

New Synonymies and Combinations, Australia)

laticeps (Pocock, 1891), New Combination, Australia

sydneyensis (Pocock, 1891), New Combination, Australia

xylophagus (Attems, 1903) (= *laticeps* q.v., New Synonymy and Combination, New Zealand).

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